

**CITY OF VIDOR
VIDOR CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 14, 2021**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Misty Songe
Councilmember Kelly Carder
Councilmember Nicole McGowan
Councilmember Jerry Aldridge
Councilmember Jessica Barker
Councilmember Gary Herrera
Councilmember Jane Hill

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Administrative Personnel: Robbie Hood, City Manager; Chris Leavins, City Attorney; Vicki Watson, City Secretary; and Rod Carroll, Chief of Police

A. OPENING, PRESENTATIONS, AND CITIZENS COMMENTS

A -1. Call to order and the establishment of a Quorum

A quorum was present, and the Regular Meeting of the Vidor City Council began at 7:00 p.m., Mayor Songe presiding.

A -2. Invocation and Pledge to the United States Flag and the State of Texas Flag

Chris Leavins, City Attorney, gave the Invocation and led the Pledge to the United States Flag and the State of Texas Flag.

A -3. Citizen Comments

There were no citizen comments.

B. COUNCIL CONSENT AGENDA

B -1. Approval of Accounts Paid:

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Paid Invoices: | General Fund - \$315,502.43 |
| | MCBSF - \$56.34 |
| | LEOSE Fund - \$764.44 |
| | Hotel Occupancy Tax Fund - \$12,020.00 |
| | Sanitation Fund - \$26,446.94 |
| | Employee Benefit Trust - \$56,048.50 |

B -2. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting – September 23, 2021

B -3. Ratification of the transfer of funds from Interest & Sinking 2013 General Obligation Refunding Bonds-Capital One Bank account to Interest & Sinking 2008/2016 General Obligation Refunding Bonds-TexPool account in the following amounts:

September 27, 2021: \$ 1,170.91

October 1, 2021: \$ 431.07
October 8, 2021: \$ 2,534.20

B -4. Ratification of the payment of the second quarter 2021 unemployment tax in the amount of \$144.04 out of General Account/Pooled Cash

A motion was made by Councilmember Carder, seconded by Councilmember Aldridge, to **APPROVE THE COUNCIL CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED**. The Council voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

C. COUNCIL REGULAR AGENDA

C -1. Discussion and possible action to approve a Resolution appointing a member to the Planning and Zoning Commission

Robbie Hood, City Manager, reminded Council they appointed a new member a few months ago to the Planning & Zoning Commission, and he has subsequently explained he will not be able to attend the meetings due to a work conflict. Mr. Hood stated he will get the list of previous applicants and contact them and invite them to the next meeting. A brief discussion ensued.

No action was taken.

C -2. Discussion and possible action to approve Task Order No. 2 between the City and Meyer, Meyer, Lacroix & Hixson, Inc. regarding post-funding services and compensation of services

Chris Leavins, City Attorney, explained this is Task Order #2 from the consultants helping with this grant. Mr. Leavins stated he spoke with Ross Hughes who works for MMLH, and he explained the City previously paid for pre-funding services, and this is for post funding services which equals to about 12-15% of the total grant amount. Mr. Leavins stated Council is approving a Resolution stating the not-to-exceed amount and explained all funds are scheduled to be paid out of the grant itself and will not cost the City. Mr. Leavins stated they have to hit certain milestones and make application to the GLO in order to be paid, so it will not be all at once.

Councilmember Aldridge made a motion to **approve the Resolution approving Task Order #2**, and Councilmember McGowan seconded. The Council voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

C -3. PUBLIC HEARING to show just cause why the buildings, dwelling, or structures located at 3030 Ward, Vidor, Texas, should not be demolished or repaired in accordance with the Ordinances of the City of Vidor, Texas

Mayor Songe explained we will need to bring this back as there was an address issue. No action was taken.

C -4. Consideration and possible approval of an Ordinance finding certain buildings, dwellings and/or structures located at 3030 Ward, Vidor, Texas, to be public nuisances and ordering the demolition and/or repair of buildings, dwellings, or structures; providing for severability and providing for a penalty

This agenda item was skipped.

C -5. Discuss and take possible action to execute a CDBG-MIT contract with the Texas General Land Office for citywide flood and drainage improvements

Robbie Hood, City Manager, explained this is authorizing the Mayor to sign the contract for the \$15 million grant we were awarded.

A motion was made by Councilmember McGowan, seconded by Councilmember Aldridge, **to approve executing a contract with the Texas General Land Office.** The Council voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

C -6. Consideration and possible action to approve AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF VIDOR, TEXAS AMENDING THE VIDOR CODE OF ORDINANCES BY AMENDING CHAPTER 54 – SOLID WASTE, ARTICLE III – PRIVATE COLLECTORS, TO REMOVE THE ALLOWANCE PERMITS FOR RESIDENTIAL PRIVATE COLLECTION OF SOLID WASTE IN THE CITY; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR WAIVER OF SECOND READING; AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Robbie Hood, City Manager, explained Larry's Sanitation went out of business and left a lot of citizens high and dry. Mr. Hood stated our Ordinance now allows any sanitation service to come into the city limits of Vidor and pick up trash while we provide the same service, and our guys do a phenomenal job. Mr. Hood explained they are required to pay permit fees and have to turn in a monthly report about how many trash cans they have out there, but they are not always accurate, so the staff up front and field staff are having to double check them.

Mr. Hood stated if the City of Vidor had a water department, we would not allow another company to come in, drill a well, and sell water to the same resident we do. Mr. Hood explained this Ordinance does not allow residential household trash to be picked up by other companies within the city limits. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Hood stated a lot of Larry's clients left us owing money, but we have picked up 60-70 customers and have recovered some of that. In summary, Mr. Hood stated the City is a public entity and provides that service and should pick it up. Chris Leavins, City Attorney, clarified this will remove the permit process for household solid waste.

Councilmember McGowan made a motion **to approve the Ordinance**, and Councilmember Carder seconded. The Council voted five (5) for and one (1) opposed. (*Councilmember Barker abstained, which is a nay vote.*) The motion carried.

Mr. Leavins explained because of the abstention, we will have to bring this back for a second reading at the next Council meeting.

C -7. Discussion and possible action to approve a Resolution amending the job descriptions and supervision of the Chief Clerk and other personnel of the Municipal Court employed by the City, including that the Chief Clerk will be a department head and reporting to the City Manager

Robbie Hood, City Manager, explained the Municipal Court has been under the Finance Department for years and years, which is pretty much a conflict of interest since they are receiving money for citations. Mr. Hood stated it is his recommendation to move the Court under the direction of the City Manager and make the Chief Clerk (Ashley Thibodeaux) a Department Head and let her run that department on a day-to-day basis.

A motion was made by Councilmember Aldridge, seconded by Councilmember McGowan, **to approve the Resolution moving the Municipal Court under the direction of the City Manager.** The Council voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

C -8. EXECUTIVE SESSION - Deliberation pursuant to Texas Government Code, Section 551.071 – Consultation with Attorney, and Section 551.074 – Personnel Matters, regarding the City Secretary position, including review of applications and interviews

Mayor Songe recessed the regular meeting to go into **EXECUTIVE SESSION - Deliberation pursuant to Texas Government Code, Section 551.071 – Consultation with Attorney, and Section 551.074 – Personnel Matters, regarding the City Secretary position, including review of applications and interviews** at 7:14 p.m.

Mayor Songe reconvened the regular meeting at 9:01 p.m.

C -9 Consideration and possible action resulting from Executive Session under C-8 regarding the City Secretary position

A motion was made by Councilmember Carder **to extend an offer for the City Secretary position to Ms. Betty Strong pending an acceptance of the offer letter.** Councilmember McGowan seconded. ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilmember Carder, aye; Councilmember McGowan, aye; Councilmember Aldridge, aye; Councilmember Barker, aye; Councilmember Herrera, aye; and Councilmember Hill, aye. The Council voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

C-10. Consideration of Adjournment


A motion was made by Councilmember Hill, seconded by Councilmember Barker, for **Consideration of Adjournment.** The Council voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried, and the Regular Meeting of the Vidor City Council adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

These minutes approved October 28, 2021.



Misty Songe, Mayor

ATTEST:



Vicki Watson, City Secretary